

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Turning now to consider Figure 2, which shows a cross-sectional view of the container of Figure 1 as filled with an endoscopic telescope, the container 1 of Figure 2 is shaped to receive an endoscopic telescope 8. The endoscopic telescope 8 includes an elongate portion 9 that extends into the elongate portion 2 of container 1. The endoscopic telescope 8 also includes a proximal end 10 that includes a housing 11 for housing optical components and a clamping means 12. As can be clearly seen from Figure 2, the enlarged end 10 of the endoscopic telescope 8 fits inside the enlarged portion 3 of container 1. To assist in inserting the elongate portion 9 of endoscopic telescope 8 into the elongate portion 2 of endoscopic telescope 1, a tapered guide ~~13~~14a is fitted to the elongate part 2 of the container 1. The elongate part 2 of container 1 is also fitted with sponge holder 13 and sponge padding 14 to provide support for the end of the endoscopic telescope.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In use of the container 30 shown in Figure 9, ~~and an~~ endoscopic telescope 45 having an elongated barrel ~~46~~44 is inserted through large opening 35. As can be seen from Figure 9, the length of the container 30 is slightly longer than the length of the endoscopic telescope 45. Once the endoscopic telescope 45 has been inserted into container 30, a lid or cap 46 having a vapour permeable part 47 is affixed to the container 30. Lid or cap 46 is arranged such that it cannot be removed from the container 30 or, if it is removed, it is evident that the container 30 has been tampered with.